

Message Text

SECRET

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64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 EB-03 COME-00 AGR-03 L-02 TRSE-00

RSR-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 /055 W
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O 032020Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2364

INFO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA IMMEDIATE NIACT

S E C R E T MANAGUA 3630

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, ECON, HON, NU

SUBJECT: SUGAR PURCHASE

REF; MANAGUA 3609

GENERAL SOMOZA ADVISED ME SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR CARACAS, THAT HE HAD LOCATED 5,000 TONS OF RAW SUGAR (BROWN SUGAR) AT ONE LOCATION AND SEVERAL ADDITIONAL THOUSAND TONS AT ANOTHER LOCATION. THE 5,000 TON LOT CAN BE OBTAINED FOR SLIGHTLY IN EXCESS OF 8 CENTS PER POUND FOB WITH CHARGE FOR BAGS, HANDLING AND TRANSPORTATION TO TEGUCIGALPA. C.I.F. PRICE WOULD BE SLIGHTLY OVER 9 CENTS PER POUND. PRICE ON THE OTHER AMOUNT WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 4. SOMOZA TELEPHONED LOPEZ SATURDAY NIGHT ADVISED HIM OF THIS EMPHASIZING WHILE THIS WAS NOT "PLANTATION WHITE" SUGAR IT WAS ALMOST AS USEFUL FOR SALE TO GENERAL POPULATION AS FULLY REFINED SUGAR. SOMOZA INDICATED THAT WHILE LOPEZ DID NOT COMMIT HIMSELF HE APPEARED FAVORABLY INCLINED. SOMOZA THEN TELEPHONED PRESIDENT ARANA IN GUATEMALA AND ASKED HIM TO URGE LOPEZ, WHO IS VISITING ARANA OVER WEEKEND, TO ACCEPT ALTERNATIVE AND NOT REPEAT NOT PURCHASE SUGAR FROM CUBA. IN ABSENCE OF SOMOZA FROM NICARAGUA, HE (SOMOZA) HAS TURNED MATTER OVER TO HIS BUSINESS MANAGER

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AMADOR TO ATTEMPT TO COMPLETE ARRANGEMENTS. I DISCUSSED

SUBJECT WITH AMADOR TODAY AND AMADOR ADVISED THAT HE WILL BE
TALKING TO LOPEZ LATE THIS AFTERNOON AND IS HOPEFUL THAT LOPEZ WILL
ACCEPT THIS SUBSTITUTE AND WILL KEEP ME ADVISED OF RESULTS.
SHELTON

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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